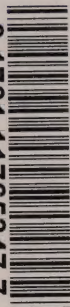


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Community Access Program



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Community Access Program

What is it?

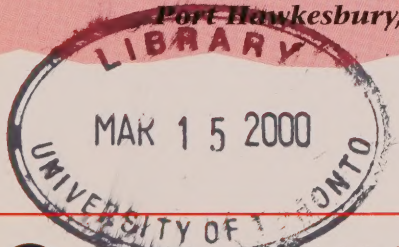
The Community Access Program (CAP) is an initiative developed to help provide Canadians with affordable public access to the Internet and the skills to use it effectively. Under CAP, public sites such as local schools, libraries and community centres act as "on-ramps" to the Information Highway and provide support on how to make the best use of the Internet.

Who's involved?

CAP has been designed by Industry Canada to help establish access sites in 5000 rural and remote communities, and up to 5000 access sites in urban communities by March 31, 2001. Affordable access to the Information Highway means new opportunities, skills and knowledge for all Canadians, regardless of location. Together with provincial and territorial governments, community groups, social agencies, libraries, schools, volunteer groups, and the business community, CAP is helping Canadians take advantage of emerging opportunities in the new global knowledge-based economy.

"It gets communities thinking about information technology, and thinking about how they can use information technology to improve their community."

***John Ouellette, Project Planner,
Strait East Nova
Community Enterprise Network,
Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia***

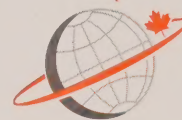


How does it work?

"Access" means access to the Internet through computers. The Government of Canada continues to build a national network of computers placed in convenient public areas such as libraries, schools and community centres in order to provide every Canadian with affordable access. CAP's goal is to help all 5000 rural and remote communities establish affordable public sites for Internet access by March 31, 2001. To date, CAP has helped to connect some 4000 rural and remote community sites.

Internet access means you can:

- access federal, provincial and municipal information services
- seek out domestic and international business opportunities
- develop value-added products and services
- create local enterprises, jobs, growth and social development
- learn valuable skills to reap the opportunities provided by the knowledge-based economy.



Each access point is staffed with skilled and knowledgeable personnel who are there to help make your Internet experience simple and enjoyable. They'll answer your questions and guide you every step of the way. Together, you can develop the skills you need to "surf the Net."

CAP is also integral to Canada's Youth Employment Strategy. Through CAP's Netcorps Canada, more than 1000 young Canadians have the opportunity to gain highly marketable skills and work experience relating to information technologies. Find out where your local Internet access point is or learn how to make your school, library or community centre a part of CAP.

For more information, please contact:
Telephone: 1-800-575-9200
TTY: 1-800-268-6608
E-mail: comaccess@ic.gc.ca
Web site: <http://cap.unb.ca>



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